

# A GUIDE TO ROOFING MATERIAL

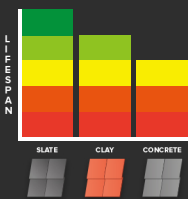


When installing a roof on your commercial or domestic property, it is vitally important to select the right material for your property, your location and your budget. Your material selection can be the difference between a roof that lasts five years and one that lasts 50 years, so to help you out, we've got a run through of the pros and cons of each material for you to compare

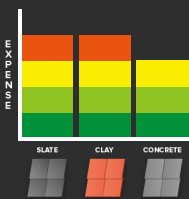
## TILES & SLATE

Tiles and slates offer a beautiful, traditional aesthetic that is still heavily favoured by many homeowners today. With a choice of clay, concrete or slate, tiles are versatile, durable and long lasting. Tiles and slates aren't the cheapest roofing material, but if your budget can stretch to it, these are worth the initial investment thanks to their longevity and resistance to rotting, insects and fire damage, guaranteeing a long lifespan. Out of the three materials, slate tends to be more expensive than its clay and concrete counterparts; this is mainly down to the increased aesthetic appeal - slate offers an attractive, uniformed appearance and the tiles often hold a high shine, which makes a slate roof look more luxurious and high quality. Be warned, however, that roof tiles are heavy, often needing roof reinforcements installed to withstand the weight.

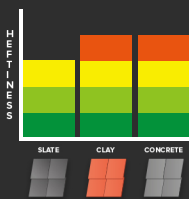
### DURABILITY



### COST



### WEIGHT



## SHEET METAL

Sheet metals are often available in aluminium, copper, stainless steel or zinc. While this does give you a bit of flexibility regarding budget, you'll find that metal roofs can still be quite expensive. Like tiles and slates, metal roofs have a good, long lifespan, so a metal roof may be worth the investment if you are going to be staying in your property for more than 20 years. Metal is fire resistant, durable and almost entirely maintenance-free, so you won't have to worry about the condition of your roof. Metal is very lightweight, so can be used on large roofs safely.

### DURABILITY



### COST



### WEIGHT



### DURABILITY



### COST



### WEIGHT



## LEAD

Lead isn't as widely used as it used to be, with the strong and durable material now usually reserved for smaller components such as roof flashings and to protect vulnerable aspects of the roof. You can rely on a lead roof to have a long lifespan, without breaking the bank. Lead is more affordable than some of the other materials available, and can be more lightweight than tiles, as well as being malleable, so it could be a good option for large or unusually shaped roofs.

## FELT

Torch-on felt is a popular choice for flat roofing, offering a watertight roof that is inexpensive. This material is very lightweight, but can be susceptible to damage, especially from sharp items. Because of this, felt is not as durable as some materials and is likely to need some maintenance to keep it looking good and functioning well. The lifespan of felt is not as long as a hard material, such as tiles or lead, but should still offer good protection from the elements for a number of years.

### DURABILITY



### COST



### WEIGHT



### DURABILITY



### COST



### WEIGHT



## RUBBER

Rubber, also known as EPDM, is a more modern alternative to torch-on felt roofing that still keeps the costs low and the roof lightweight. If installed correctly, rubber roofing can last for up to 25 years, but be warned that you will need to invest in regular maintenance to keep it functioning properly. This is often used on commercial properties because it is so affordable and has a quick and safe installation process.

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